
YOUTH COUNCIL ON WORKFORCE SERVICES
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 25, 2004
3:00 p.m.

Presiding: Paul Jackson, Chair

Present: James Andersen, Latesia Anderson, Sandra Hemmert, Kevin Miller (for John Latliewicz), Akilah Messado, Jude Schmid, Peter Smith (for Janet Wolf), Claire Turner, Ali Wilkinson, Sheri VanBibber

Absent: Susan Archibeque, Brent Goodfellow, Don Johnson, Gay Pinnecoose, Kay Thibodeaux, Lona Walton

Excused: Betty Barker, Joeann Bartlett, Greg Diven, Linda Fife, Dave Melville, Jon Pierpont, Stephen Ronnenkamp, Julie Zimmerman

Guests: Latesia Anderson – Desi/Job Corps, Jim Tarr from Desi/Job Corps, Kent Fitzgerald, Salt Lake County

Staff: Amy Aldridge, Rebecca Banner, Jane Gardner, Steve Leyba, Diane Lovell, Mary Peterson

Welcome and Announcements

Paul Jackson called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. Mr. Jackson introduced Kevin Miller, Director of Student Services for Salt Lake Community College representing John Latkiewicz, Latesia Anderson from Desi/Job Corps and Jim Tarr from Desi/Job Corps. Mr. Jackson recognized Ali Wilkinson who is the new Co-Chair for Youth Council.

Mr. Jackson referred to the e-mail sent to Youth Council members and a hand out regarding the Transition to Adult Living Summit that will be held November 5th and 6th at the University Guest House & Conference Center on Fort Douglas Blvd. This is a “no cost” event and registration forms may be faxed.

November 18th the Regional Council is holding a Legislative Forum beginning at 7:15 a.m. at the Metro Employment Center. Legislators will be invited to attend this presentation on key legislative issues that impact workforce services. Mr. Jackson invited members to attend.

A Diversity Training session, sponsored by DWS and IHC will be held December 1st at Thanksgiving Point. Mr. Jackson encouraged all to attend. Handouts were made available with more information regarding this training.

Jude Schmid announced that a Community Awareness breakfast will be held on November 17th at the Salt Lake Community College Redwood Center from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Breakfast will be served. Invitations will be sent out.

Paul Jackson recognized the YES graduation that was held to celebrate 60 core individuals who received either their GED or other certificate and noted that it was a wonderful occasion.

Claire Turner reported on the Defining Your Path Conference co-sponsored by the University of Utah, Girl Scouts and the American Association for University Women that was held October 16th. The idea was to bring 8th grade girls on the university campus to help them prepare for their future education and careers. Financial aid information was also shared with the participants and their parents. Ms. Turner indicated this was the first conference of this type and it was very

successful - with approximately 80 in attendance. They plan to hold this conference on an annual basis.

Approval of Minutes

Sheri VanBibber moved to approve the August 16, 2004 minutes. Claire Turner seconded the motion. All voted "Aye". The minutes were approved as presented.

Council of Councils Highlights

Paul Jackson reported on the Council of Councils meeting held in October. Mr. Jackson recognized this excellent meeting and the speakers. Jane Broadhead and the State Youth Council asked each Regional Council, each DWS Regional office and each WIA youth provider to develop strategies to meet current program year outcomes. Mr. Jackson also noted that because the YES program serves the greatest number of WIA youth in the State, their success with performance outcomes is critical.

DWS Update and Performance Outcomes

Rebecca Banner provided a handout and presented an update on the performance measures. The measures for the Central Region for Older Youth, Younger Youth and Customer Satisfaction were outlined and the outcomes provided. An action plan for this year was outlined in these areas.

There was discussion regarding the increase in expected outcomes this year. Sandra Hemmert asked that "Number of Participants" be added to the handout to help measure the percentages given.

Jude Schmid indicated the data that was being presented was older data. Several Youth Council members questioned why they were reviewing "old" outcome information rather than current performance data and therefore asked how performance could be impacted, based on activities that have already occurred. Quite a bit of frustration was expressed by Council members; however, the data collection, analysis and reporting system was developed by DOL and was designed to look at performance outcomes over the long term.

Ali Wilkinson asked what the criteria were for the negotiated percentages. Rebecca Banner responded that the DOL and the DWS State Representative determined the increase. Ms. Banner noted that because we have been meeting our numbers the decision going forward was made to increase these numbers.

Peter Smith asked if the negotiated numbers were received after the beginning of the current period. Jude Schmid responded, "yes" for all intents and purposes. Mr. Smith and members of the Youth Council questioned the value of the current reporting process. Jude Schmid indicated that both Earnings and Retention will be the most difficult to work with as the youth have already been served and have exited the program.

Peter Smith stated that the statistics being produced are not really relevant to the actual time frame. He noted "The strategies are good but we are strategizing on figures that have already been decided on which makes the strategies irrelevant."

Steve Leyba commented on the information reported and said that overall we need to come up with more tangible ways to report on program activities – ways that will enable us to impact outcomes as we move forward, and in real life terms so that staff can be motivated to meet the required outcome levels.

Paul Jackson indicated that as a Council, "We need to be comfortable with these strategies and numbers so that we can be helpful in being successful." He asked members to send any thoughts or ideas to Diane Lovell.

DOL/ETA New Strategic Vision

Rebecca Banner referred the Council to the yellow portion of the Youth Council packet that presented the new Strategic Vision for Employment and Training. This vision was introduced by the Department of Labor's (DOL) Employment and Training Administration (ETA) to enhance services to out-of-school and at-risk youth under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). DOL wants to recognize and ensure service providers use the many number of programs available that are not being used by those youth most in need.

The State of Utah has already been leaning in this direction. The critical strategies will require ETA and state and local workforce investment system leaders to serve as catalysts for bringing together employment, education and economic development entities. If the vision is realized, state and local workforce investment systems serving youth will be positioned as strategic partners in the development and deployment of the emerging labor force.

Rebecca Banner indicated that one thing that DWS is doing through its Workforce Development Division is meeting with employers and economists to identify what jobs have the highest demand with a career ladder for advancement with livable wages. We plan to share this information with youth, identify needs, and then train youth specifically for jobs in demand areas. We have targeted four to five demand industries that we will start with: health care, finance, manufacturing, construction, and retail.

Another area is partnering with local school districts to identify youth that are at risk for dropping out of school and to see if some of the programs being offered will be of benefit to them.

Ms. Banner indicated that we have a partnership with DCFS and Human Services to work with foster care youth and those coming out of the court system. We have identified within our region youth in training programs transitioning out of foster care and have partnered with DCFS. They are providing us with funds to combine with our funds to help serve these youth in programs that we may have not been able to support.

Regional Youth Summit

Paul Jackson indicated that following the August 16, 2004 Youth Council meeting many of the council were additionally involved in two 7:00 a.m. meetings held on September 9th and 23rd. Those in attendance discussed the categories of Youth Services and each Council member received a copy of the outcomes of these meetings. We are trying to identify all providers of youth services.

Mr. Jackson also reported on the Transition to Adult Living services and how we would get information about this initiative out to youth. More information regarding the websites that are available and how to access the information will be forthcoming. Rebecca Banner indicated that the www.justforyouth.gov website will be launched on November 5th and 6th at the Summit and she encouraged all to visit the website.

January 24, 2005 Agenda Items and Meeting Calendar

Paul Jackson referred to the Central Region Youth Council 2004/2005 Meeting Schedule included in each Youth Council packet. Mr. Jackson asked the council to make note of these dates. Mr. Jackson asked Jude Schmid to give a YES Program update at the January and May meetings in 2005. Mr. Jackson asked Rebecca Banner to make Karla Aguirre aware that we will want a report from her in each of the upcoming meetings. Mr. Jackson also proposed that in our January 24, 2005 meeting we have a special topic on Program Capability Inventory to get updated information for comparison on the Yellow and Red Books and the websites to gain a comprehensive understanding of what is available.

James Anderson asked if we could find a way to help the out-of-school youth and if the funds that are allocated could be redirected? He asked for someone from the State to meet with the Council to answer related questions.

Paul Jackson proposed that the focus in March and May be a "Reach for Youth" where we talk about surveys, focus groups, communication material, who the partners are, how to get the web out there and market it. Then follow in June with the Council's Retreat.

Peter Smith asked what the purpose of the Retreat would be. Paul Jackson indicated this would be a time to re-define the Youth Council mission and focus, review success measures and re-assess the direction of the Council.

Other Business

There was no additional business discussed.

New Business

There was no new business.

Public Comment

Be sure to vote!

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.